Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: *October 26, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 26, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:25 am and ending at 4:30 p.m. Weather conditions were partly cloudy in the morning transitioning to sunny in the afternoon, with temperatures ranging from 63°F in the morning to a high of 90°F in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with concrete wall preparations, drilling operations, placement of rock to extend the gabion peninsula, tide gate reconstruction, trash removal, and signage placement. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:25 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open, the two overnight guards are posted, and a construction crew of three wait near the trailer. No additional crew have arrived yet.

6:30 am. The initial biological survey begins. Very little wildlife activity is observed prior to sunrise. Wildlife activity increases around 6:45 am as dawn approaches. Phoebe calls are heard towards the south fence. One double-crested cormorant flies from the north fence to the south fence and two ring billed gulls perch on the parking lot lights in Lot 7.

7:00 am. The biological monitor gives the bio-awareness training to the construction crew, including subcontractors. Emphasis was placed on going slowly, not disturbing vegetation or wildlife, general site cleanup, and protection of Monarch butterflies since several were seen the week before, and egrets, ducks and American crows that could wander close to construction activities. All workers signed the sign-in sheet.

7:15 am. Work begins as crews continue work on the second tide gate and the concrete wall scaffolding around the platform caissons on the south bank. The largest crew works to extend the gabion peninsula in the Central Basin to the west. This involves excavation with a large excavator and delivery of gravel and rock using a bulldozer. The drilling crew continues work on shafts in the West Basin. One black phoebe is observed feeding near the south fence trees.

7:40 am. An American crow sits on the east side fence. A female mallard is surface feeding in the shallow pools. Several American crows are seen milling about in the mud.

8:00 am. No ground squirrel activity is noted in the burrows at the south fence.

8:30 am. A Great Egret preens in the rough vegetation by the north end boat ramp. He is undeterred by the noise and commotion of the construction crews and continues preening.

9:00 am. Several Monarch butterflies are migrating through the east side of the Basin. One actually lands on the site foreman. He stays still to allow the butterfly to move through on its own. A dark-eyed Junco flies around the east side feeding.

9:30 am. The Great Egret is still milling about on north side. He seems very curious about the construction and doesn't shy away, but instead makes his way up the bank and gets closer to the construction crews.

10:10 am. Several Monarchs and two black Phoebes are seen on the east side. The Phoebes are feeding and perching.

10:20 am. Several Monarchs and the same Great Egret are on the north side as crews continue to haul rock to extend the gabion peninsula.

11:00 am. A large excavator continues to fill the sandriser shaft with sand. The Great Egret moves to the east side where there is less construction. Several Monarchs filter about. A Snowy Egret lands on the north end but only stays for a few moments before flying out of the Basin and above and away from the construction trailer. The Great Egret moves back to his usual spot on the north side.

11:40 am. The Great Egret moves to and feeds on the south side pools.

12:00 pm. Several Monarchs are on the north side of the Basin. Crews are parking and cleaning equipment before lunch.

12:15 pm. Most construction crews and the biological monitor break for lunch. The drilling crew finishes filling recently-dug holes with sand using a large excavator.

12:45 pm. Work resumes extending the gabion peninsula in the Central Basin and reconstructing the tide gates. Two Monarch butterflies are on the south side.

1:15 pm. One Monarch and one black Phoebe on the east side. The Phoebe is moving from perch to perch.

1:30 pm. One Monarch and one female Anna's hummingbird are observed on the north side. The female hummer is feeding over the Basin and coming from the houses on the north side. A Monarch flies by.

2:15 pm. Crews on the east side move some fencing for easier access as they move soil from their location to the soil fill on the north side where crews continually haul it away. Several American crows seem to be fighting over something in the mud in the Basin.

2:30 pm. A black Phoebe is heard but not seen on the south side. A Monarch flies by.

3:00 pm. Crews working on the peninsula extension need to dump rock roughly 20 feet from the pool where the Great egret is foraging. The egret moves on, on his own.

3:20 pm. The drilling crew and tide gate crew finish work for the day and prepare to leave the site. The second cement mixer arrives at the boat ramp. Four house finches are observed on temporary power lines over the west bank.

3:30 pm. Monarchs are observed on the west side. Crews continue work on the gabion peninsula.

4:00 pm. Two black Phoebes and two Monarchs are seen on the north side.

4:30 pm. The crews begin shutting down and cleaning up for the day as the monitor does one final lap around the Basin.

5:00 pm. All construction crews and the biological monitor leave the site for the day.

Additional Observations

No ground squirrel activity, osprey, black skimmers, or California least terns are observed.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away

from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on.

2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity did not increase during the late afternoon, perhaps due to the heat.

3. No fish were directly observed in the remaining pools, but the continued presence of wading birds stalking the shallows indicates that at least a few invertebrates likely remain.

4. Insects remain relatively common, including several species of dragonflies and butterflies, including Monarch, swallowtails, sulphurs, red admiral, checkerspot, and painted lady. Butterflies are attracted to the moist soils and flowering plants. Monarchs are observed with more regularity.

5. Algal blooms are observed less frequently than in previous weeks; however, turbidity levels have significantly increased in the remaining pools resulting in a decrease in water clarity.

6. Wildlife activity largely consists of flyovers and occurs around the periphery of the project site; very little activity is observed within the Basin itself. Wildlife activity is concentrated along Admiralty Way and Washington Boulevard, and near the bike path and Yvonne Burke Park.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 26, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 26, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	Several individuals; very common flying overhead and exploring the Basin banks
Double-crested Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax auritus*	1 individual observed flying overhead
Ring-billed Gull	*Larus delawarensis*	Several individuals observed flying overhead
Great Egret	*Ardea alba*	1 individual observed preening in the Basin
Snowy Egret	*Egretta thula*	1 individual observed foraging in the Basin and flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	5-7 observed perching throughout the Basin
Dark-eyed Junco	*Junco hyemalis*	1 individual observed in the southeast channel
Anna's Hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	1 individual observed in and around trees throughout the Basin

Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: *October 27, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 27, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:25 am and ending at 4:30 p.m. Weather conditions were clear with a full moon in the morning transitioning between partly cloudy and cloudy in the afternoon, with temperatures ranging from 63°F in the morning to a high of 82°F in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with site cleaning and maintenance, concrete wall preparations, drilling operations, placement of rock to extend the gabion peninsula, and tide gate reconstruction. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

5:45 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open, the two overnight guards are posted, there are several large tractor trailers waiting outside the north eastern access gate hauling what appears to be gravel. No additional crew have arrived yet.

6:15 am. Biological monitor conducts initial assessment. No wildlife is seen or heard.

6:45 am. Biological monitor conducts biological awareness training with special emphasis on Monarch butterflies since there were many present yesterday, as well as the Great Egret observed

yesterday that was not deterred by the construction activities. The biological monitor reminds construction crews to go slowly, to be patient with the wildlife, and to avoid vegetation and wildlife onsite. All crew members sign the awareness training worksheet.

7:00 am. Construction activities begin for the day. A female Anna's Hummingbird is at the east side feeding and flying back and forth from the tree line into the open Basin. Work continues on the east side wall. A snowy egret lands on the north side spillway but quickly leaves. Black Phoebes are heard but not seen.

7:30 am. A great egret flies over the site but does not stay. A pair of Canada Geese fly over the Basin. Many crows are observed. Three western gulls fly by as well.

7:45 am. A black Phoebe is perched on the north side. A group of 10-12 American crows aggregate on the ground on the north side. Two more Western gulls fly by.

8:00 am. Three Black Phoebes are feeding and perching in the mud on the north side.

8:15 am. Anna's Hummingbirds are heard but not seen in the tree line on the east side. Several black Phoebes are feeding and perching in the mud.

8:30 am. Additional crew are sent to continue work on the gabion peninsula. Soil is continually being hauled away from the site though the north end entrance.

9:00 am. A male Anna's hummingbird is feeding in the East Basin. A Black Phoebe is perched on a stick.

9:30 am. Many crows are observed in the Basin. A snowy egret lands near the east side channel mouth.

9:45 am. The snowy egret leaves the Basin.

10:30 am. A black Phoebe is perched on the fence. Several crows are observed on the south side.

11:00 am. A crane arrives to begin pumping concrete into the east side wall.

11:15 am. Black Phoebes are heard but not seen near the south side fence line.

11:45 am. A snowy egret flies by but does not stop in the Basin. One monarch flies by and three Western gulls fly by on the west end by the construction trailer.

12:15 pm. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes.

1:30 pm. One monarch is observed by the construction trailer followed by several white cabbages and yellow sulphur butterflies.

2:00 pm. Crews pour concrete in the east wall. Sulfur and cabbage butterflies are not deterred.

2:30 pm. Crew is done pouring the east wall and moves to pour concrete at the southwest wall near the construction trailer.

2:45 pm. One monarch and one white cabbage butterfly are flying near the north fence line.

3:15 pm. A pair of mallard ducks, one male and one female, fly into the Basin after circling around and land in the puddles at the east side channel. They stay and feed. Currently, construction is not occurring in this area.

3:30 pm. A great egret does a brief touchdown on the south side. The egret quickly moves on.

3:45 pm. A great egret does a fly by and eventually lands on the east side where construction has stopped for the day. After preening there for a few minutes, he moves to the fence on the north side spillway.

4:00 pm. Two black Phoebes feed in and around the mud on the south side floodgates. Two western gulls fly by.

4:30 pm. A snowy egret flies by as construction crews complete work for the day.

Additional Observations

No ground squirrel activity, osprey, black skimmers, or California least terns are observed. There is noticeably less wildlife and very few monarch butterflies today. Many more crows are observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to avoid or move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. Wildlife rarely return to the area once the crews move on.

2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity did not increase during the late afternoon. Butterfly activity remains highest in the afternoon, however, there were not as many observed today.

3. No fish were directly observed in the remaining pools, but the continued presence of wading

birds stalking the shallows indicates that at least a few invertebrates likely remain.

4. Insects remain relatively common, including several species of dragonflies and butterflies, including monarch, swallowtails, sulphurs, red admiral, checkerspot, and painted lady. Butterflies are attracted to the moist soils and flowering plants. Monarchs are being observed with more regularity.

5. Algal blooms are observed less frequently than in previous weeks; however, turbidity levels have significantly increased in the remaining pools resulting in a decrease in water clarity. There is also much less standing water.

6. Wildlife activity largely consists of flyovers and occurs around the periphery of the project site; very little activity is observed within the Basin itself. Wildlife activity is concentrated along Admiralty Way and Washington Boulevard, and near the bike path and Yvonne Burke Park.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 27, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 27, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	Several individuals; very common flying overhead and exploring the Basin banks
Western Gull	*Larus occidentalis*	Several seen flying overhead
Canada Goose	*Branta Canadensis*	Two seen flying overhead
Great Egret	*Ardea alba*	One to two individuals observed preening in the Basin
Snowy Egret	*Egretta thula*	Two to three individuals observed foraging in the Basin and flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	Ten individuals observed perching throughout the Basin
Anna's Hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	Two individual observed in and around trees on the east side of the Basin

Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: *October 28, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 28, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:25 am and ending at 4:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly cloudy in the morning transitioning between partly cloudy and cloudy in the afternoon, with temperatures ranging from 66°F in the morning to a high of 81°F in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with concrete wall preparations, drilling operations, placement of rock to extend the gabion peninsula, tide gate reconstruction, trash and debris pickup, and signage placement. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open. The two overnight guards are posted. No additional crew have arrived yet. Anna's Hummingbird's are heard but not seen on the east side near the residential area.

6:25 am. The biological monitor conducts biological awareness training with emphasis on Monarch butterflies, Great egrets, Snowy egrets, Anna's hummingbirds, crew trash removal, as well as crew moving slowly in areas where wildlife are present or likely to be present.

7:00 am. Work begins for the day. Work continues on the gabion peninsula, the southwestern tide gates, and the wall on the southern end that was poured yesterday.

7:30 am. A Black Phoebe perches on the fence of the north side spillway. When not perching, the Phoebe can be seen bathing and feeding in the small puddles. Black Phoebes are observed on the east side fence line perching. Crews cleanup trash and debris around the east side fence line where work is finished for the time being as concrete dries.

8:00 am. A Black Phoebe is observed flying by the construction trailer on the west side. A snowy egret flies over the trailer and out of the Basin.

8:30 am. A snowy egret circles around looking for a place to land then moves on out of the Basin. Two snowy egrets fly by together over the Basin from north to south.

8:45 am. A snowy egret lands in the east side channel and attempts to feed for a few moments before flying away.

9:15 am. A snowy egret lands in the east side channel briefly but them flies to the north side spillway. He touches down for a moment then flies towards the west and out of the Basin.

9:45 am. A monarch is seen flitting around the west side near the grapevines at the construction trailer.

10:35 am. A monarch flies by the south side fence line. Two western gulls fly over the Basin without landing.

10:45 am. Anna's Hummingbirds are heard but not seen at the east side, both on the residential and the street side fence lines.

11:30 am. A Black Phoebe perches on the north side spillway fence line. Multiple crows are in the Basin near the fence line as well.

12:00 pm. Ten to twelve crows aggregate at the north end fence line. Crew break for lunch.

12:45 pm. Work resumes. One of the large excavators is being repaired.

1:15 pm. A Black Phoebe is perched on the fence at the north end by the spillway.

1:30 pm. A Monarch and a Sulphur butterfly pass by the south side. Three western gulls fly over the site but do not stop.

2:15 pm. A Black Phoebe is feeding near the east side channel. An excavator levels out the elevation.

2:30 pm. On the north side, a Phoebe is sitting on the fence by the spillway. A ring billed gull flies by. The monitor sees a dead fish floating in one of the shallow puddles. Another dead fish is spotted in the east side channel puddles. A black Phoebe is heard but not seen.

3:30 pm. Five or more Black Phoebes are feeding in the east end spillway.

4:30 pm. Work ends for the day as a Black Phoebe begins feeding in the mud near the construction trailer on the west end.

Additional Observations

No ground squirrel activity, osprey, black skimmers, or California least terns are observed. Markedly less butterflies today and very little to no hummingbird activity.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to avoid or move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They rarely return to the area once the crews move on.

2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity did not increase during the late afternoon, perhaps due to the heat. Butterfly activity remains highest in the afternoon, however, there were not as many today.

3. The lack of wading birds stalking the shallows indicates that very few to no invertebrates remain.

4. Insects remain relatively common, including several species of dragonflies and butterflies, including monarch, swallowtails, sulphurs, red admiral, checkerspot, and painted lady. Butterflies are attracted to the moist soils and flowering plants. Monarchs are being observed with more regularity.

5. There is very little standing water left in the Basin. What is left is in small pools near the east side spillway, the north side spillway, and the tide gates at the west end. Water in the smaller pools is turning a slightly yellow color. Two dead fish were seen today.

6. Wildlife activity largely consists of flyovers and occurs around the periphery of the project site; very little activity is observed within the Basin itself. Wildlife activity is concentrated along Admiralty Way and Washington Boulevard, and near the bike path and Yvonne Burke Park.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 28, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 28, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	Numerous individuals; very common flying overhead and exploring the Basin banks
Western Gull	*Larus occidentalis*	Several seen flying overhead
Ring-billed Gull	*Larus delawarensis*	1 individual observed flying overhead
Snowy Egret	*Egretta thula*	2-3 individual observed foraging in the Basin and flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	10-15 observed perching throughout the Basin
Anna's Hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	1 individual heard in and around trees on the east side of the Basin

Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: *October 29, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 29, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 4:30 p.m. Weather conditions were clear and windy in the morning transitioning to sunny in the afternoon, with temperatures ranging from 68°F in the morning to a high of 82°F in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with concrete wall preparations, placement of rock to extend the gabion peninsula, tide gate reconstruction, trash removal, and sign placement. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is not yet open. The two overnight guards are posted on the northeastern side. No additional crew have arrived yet. No wildlife is seen or heard on the initial assessment.

6:55 am. Biological monitor conducts biological awareness training with emphasis on Monarch butterflies, Great egrets, Snowy egrets, and Anna's hummingbirds as well as trash removal and crew moving slowly in areas where wildlife are present or likely to be present.

7:15 am. Work begins for the day. Work continues on the gabion peninsula, the southwestern tide gates, and leveling work near the east side channel. Preparations are being made to pour concrete on the north side ramp.

8:00 am. A Black Phoebe perches on the gabion peninsula and two Western Gulls fly by without stopping.

8:30 am. Two Black Phoebes are feeding in the puddles of the north side spillway.

9:00 am. Two Black Phoebes are perched on the wooden markers near the east side channel. Anna's hummingbirds are heard but not seen in the trees by the northeastern fence line. A Black Phoebe and a Monarch are flying around near the east wall.

9:30 am. The crew has completed excavation near the tide gates.

10:15 am. Numerous crows fly overhead and briefly touchdown on the south side.

10:30 am. One bee is observed near the north side elevated manhole. Anna's Hummingbirds are seen but not heard. A Black Phoebe perches on a wooden marker by the east end channel.

11:15 am. Anna's hummingbirds are heard but not seen at the north end by the residential area. Two Black Phoebes and two Monarchs fly around and feed in the east side channel.

12:00 pm. Most of the crew breaks for lunch, however, two workers continue pouring the footers at the north side ramp.

12:45 pm. Work resumes. Black Phoebe is observed in the bushes outside the construction trailer. A yellow Sulphur flies by.

1:30 pm. Monitor attends the weekly meeting. The construction crews prepare the peninsula for the concrete pour scheduled for tomorrow.

2:15 pm. A Monarch flies by the construction trailer. Anna's hummingbirds are heard but not seen in the tree line along the north side fence line.

3:00 pm. A two-man team walks the perimeter checking the fence line, ensuring it is closed and covered properly. Three Western Gulls fly overhead and out of the Basin without touching down.

3:15 pm. A Monarch butterfly flies around the east side near the boat ramp. A Black Phoebe is perched on one of the wooden markers there.

4:30 pm. Work ends for the day. A Monarch flies by the construction trailer.

Additional Observations

Markedly less sightings of wildlife and butterflies. There is little to no water left in the Basin. Very little hummingbird activity, even near the residential tree line. There were no egret sightings today, not even fly overs.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife sightings are fewer.

2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity did not increase during the late afternoon, perhaps due to the wind. There was markedly less butterfly activity and hummingbird activity today.

3. Insects are now less common, but still include several species of dragonflies and butterflies, including Monarch, swallowtails, sulphurs, red admiral, checkerspot, and painted lady. Butterflies are attracted to the moist soils and flowering plants.

4. There is very little standing water left in the Basin. What is left is in small pools near the east side spillway, the north side spillway, and the tide gates at the west end. Water in the smaller pools is turning a slightly yellow color.

5. Wildlife activity largely consists of flyovers and occurs around the periphery of the project site; very little activity is observed within the Basin itself. Crows are now the most prevalent species of wildlife. Wildlife activity is concentrated along Admiralty Way and Washington Boulevard, and near the bike path and Yvonne Burke Park.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 29, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 29, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	Numerous individuals; very common flying overhead and exploring the Basin banks
Western Gull	*Larus occidentalis*	Several seen flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	10-15 observed perching throughout the Basin
Anna's Hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	1 individual heard in and around trees on the east side of the Basin

Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: *October 30, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 30, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:30 am and ending at 6:30 p.m. Weather conditions were clear and windy in the morning transitioning to sunny in the afternoon, with temperatures ranging from 61°F in the morning to a high of 82°F in the afternoon. No measureable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with concrete wall preparations, placement of rock to extend the gabion peninsula, tide gate reconstruction, trash removal, and signage placement. All crews were overseen by the contractor superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:30 am. Biological monitor arrives on site to conduct initial assessment. The construction trailer gate is open, the two overnight guards are posted on the gabion peninsula. No additional crew have arrived yet. One Great egret flies over head.

6:55 am. Biological monitor conducts biological awareness training with emphasis on Monarch butterflies, Great egrets, Snowy egrets, and Anna's hummingbirds as well as trash removal and crew moving slowly in areas where wildlife are present or likely to be present.

7:15 am. Work begins for the day. Work continues on the gabion peninsula, the southwestern tide gates, and leveling activities near the east side channel. Preparations are being made to pour concrete on the gabion peninsula.

7:30 am. Two Great egrets fly over the Basin from east to west without stopping. Five West Gulls fly by.

8:15 am. Two Great egrets fly over from west to east.

8:45 am. A Black Phoebe is perched on the north side spillway fence. A Black Phoebe is perched on the east side boat ramp. A Monarch flies around the puddles in the east side channel.

9:15 am. Great egret flies over the construction trailer. Numerous crows fly over the Basin without stopping.

9:30 am. A Western Gull lands near the peninsula then leaves a few minutes later. A Black Phoebe is perched on the north fence. Preparations to pour concrete into the peninsula are finished. The concrete boom arrives.

9:45 am. Four Great egrets fly over the Basin without stopping.

10:30 am. A Monarch flies by the construction trailer. A Monarch flies around the south side fence line. The boom is in place and ready to pour concrete.

10:45 am. Great egret flies over the construction trailer.

11:15 am. Cement trucks begin arriving. A female house finch moves from tree to tree on the north side fence line.

11:30 am. Cement pouring begins. A swallowtail butterfly flies around the construction trailer.

12:00 pm. A Monarch flies around the north side fence line. The majority of the crew breaks for lunch as a few stay behind to continue pouring cement.

12:45 pm. Crew resumes work. Concrete is continually being poured and they are halfway through the peninsula.

1:15 pm. Several Monarchs are flying around the mud area on the east side channel. Numerous crows are sitting in the trees by the north side residential area.

2:00 pm. A Monarch flies through the construction site parking lot. Five Monarchs fly around the blocked off trees on the south side of the Basin. A Great egret flies over the construction trailer.

2:45 pm. Anna's hummingbirds are heard but not seen on the south side in the trees by the high-rise apartments. A white cabbage butterfly and several Monarchs fly by.

3:15 pm. Three Black Phoebes fly in and around the east side channel. Two Monarchs fly by. The majority of the construction crew leaves for the day; only the cement pourers stay behind to finish pouring the peninsula.

4:00 pm. A Great egret lands in the east side spillway but quickly moves to the west side puddles. After exploring there a few minutes, the Great egret returns back to the east side. Multiple Black Phoebes fly in and around the peninsula, often landing on the rebar.

4:30 pm. Two Monarchs fly around the south side fence line by the trees that have been cordoned off. A Great egret lands in the north side spillway. He stays for a few minutes then perches on the fence there. After a few minutes more, he flies to the west side and lands by the tide gates. He flies away soon after.

5:00 pm. The peninsula is finished for now. The crew begins cleaning up and packing up to leave.

5:30 pm. Work is finished for the day, however the cement pourers are still cleaning their equipment. Biological monitor leaves the site.

Additional Observations

Markedly less sightings of wildlife and butterflies compared to a week ago, however, today was less windy and there were more fly overs than in the last few days, many of which were Great egrets. Monarchs were observed this afternoon. There is little to no water left in the Basin. Very little hummingbird activity, even near the residential tree line.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife sightings are fewer and fewer.

2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am. Wildlife activity did not increase during the late afternoon, perhaps due to the wind. There was markedly less butterfly activity and hummingbird activity today.

3. Insects are now less common, but still include several species of dragonflies and butterflies, including Monarch, swallowtails, sulphurs, red admiral, checkerspot, and painted lady. Butterflies are attracted to the moist soils and flowering plants.

4. There is very little standing water left in the Basin. What is left is in small pools near the east side spillway, the north side spillway, and the tide gates at the west end. Water in the smaller pools is turning a slightly yellow color.

5. Wildlife activity largely consists of flyovers and occurs around the periphery of the project site; very little activity is observed within the Basin itself. Crows are now the most prevalent species of wildlife. Wildlife activity is concentrated along Admiralty Way and Washington Boulevard, and near the bike path and Yvonne Burke Park.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 30, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 30, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	Numerous individuals; very common flying overhead and exploring the Basin banks
Western Gull	*Larus occidentalis*	Several seen flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	10-15 observed perching throughout the Basin
Great Egret	*Ardea alba*	Numerous fly overs
House Finch	*Haemorhus mexicanas*	1 individual seen on the north side
Anna's Hummingbird	*Calypte anna*	1 individual heard in and around trees on the east side of the Basin

Memorandum

To: *Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*

From: *Wendy Katagi, CDM Smith*
Linda Nguyen, SWCA Environmental Consultants

Date: *October 31, 2015*

Subject: *Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement Project*

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on October 31, 2015, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multi-use Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Linda Nguyen, SWCA biologist, beginning at 8:00 am and ending at 2:40 p.m. Weather conditions during the day were mostly sunny, with temperatures ranging from 61°F in the morning to a high of 87°F. No measurable rain was recorded.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with building the berm with gabions and gravel transfer. All crews were overseen by the LA County Building Inspector and the Stormwater Pollution Inspector.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:00 am. The Biological monitor arrived on site.

6:30 am. The Construction crew members arrived and open gate to the layout yard.

6:45 am. Initial Biological Assessment begins. No wildlife is observed within the project area.

7:30 am. The biological monitor gave the bio-awareness training to the crew of 12 workers. The LA County Building Inspector was also present.

7:40 am. The trainings and safety tailboards were completed.

7:45 am. Two Great Egrets and one Snowy Egret were observed in Basin.

8:00 am. The C.S. Legacy crew began finishing construction of the central berm for the Basin. Gravel was deposited and gabions were constructed. A second crew was transferring rock/gravel from the northeast portion of the Basin to the northwest corner. Two crew members set up a public sign for Oxford Basin, facing Washington Boulevard.

8:30 am. Three Black Phoebes were observed perching on utility lines in the northeast portion of Basin.

8:45 am. An American Crow was observed perched on a streetlight on Washington Boulevard.

9:30 am. A Snowy Egret was observed in the storm water inlet. It did not show signs of stress, despite the excavator working close by.

9:45 am. Two Monarch butterflies were seen flying in the Basin before leaving the project site.

10:15 am. The C.S. Legacy crew continued building the berm in the center of the Basin.

10:45 am. Three American crows were observed foraging on the southern bank of the Basin.

11:00 am. An American Crow was observed perched on a utility pole in the northern bank of the Basin.

11:30 am. Excavator operators avoided any butterflies in the vicinity, even species that are not Monarch butterflies.

12:00 pm. The crew members broke for lunch.

12:40 pm. The C.S. Legacy crew members continued to work on the berm within the Basin.

1:30 pm. A Monarch butterfly was observed in the eastern finger of Basin.

2:00 pm. The C.S. Legacy crew members began to clean up their tools and materials while two excavators moved more sediment within the Basin.

2:30 pm. The C.S. Legacy crew members stopped working for the day.

2:35 pm. A Mourning Dove was observed perched on the utility line on the western bank of the Basin.

2:40 pm. All crew members departed from the project site.

Additional Observations

No Black Skimmers, Belted Kingfisher, Least Terns, or Ospreys were observed today.

Conclusions

Based on observations made during monitoring, the following conclusions were made:

1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife has avoided foraging inside Basin entirely.

2. Wildlife levels were low throughout the day; however, there is a slight increase of wildlife activity in the late afternoon.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on October 31, 2015.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on October 31, 2015		
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Comments**
American Crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	5 individuals observed foraging on banks, very common; observed flying overhead
Black Phoebe	*Sayornis nigricans*	3 individuals perched on utility line
Snowy Egret	*Egretta thula*	3 individuals observed foraging in Basin
Western Gull	*Larus occidentalis*	Very common; observed flying overhead
Mourning Dove	*Zenaida macroura*	1 individual observed on utility line
Rock Pigeon	*Columba livia*	Very common; observed flying overhead

Photo 1. Excavator dropping gravel at base of berm

Photo 2. Great Egret on berm, near excavator

Photo 3. Crew members building gabions

Photo 4. Excavator tracks in Basin

Photo 5. Mourning Dove perched on utility line

Photo 6. View of berm at the end of work day